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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-12 /071 W
----------064674 281006Z /11
R 271240Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5152
INFO SECDEF, WASHDC
OJCS, WASHDC
USCINCLANT, NORFOLK, VA
USEUCOM, VAIHINGEN, GE
USNAVEUR, LONDON, ENGLAND
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, MARR, PFOR, NO
SUBJECT: SACLANT PRESS CONFERENCE

1. DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO NORTHERN NORWAY, ADMIRAL KIDD HELD A JAN 19 PRESS CONFERENCE IN TROMSO DURING WHICH HE TOUCHED ON LORAN C/OMEGA SENSITIVE SUBJECTS WHICH HAVE CAUSED US PROBLEMS IN THE PAST. THE TEXT OF HIS RESPONSE AS REPORTED IN OSLO'S LARGEST DAILY, AFTENPOSTEN, IS REPORTED BELOW:

BEGIN TEXT QUOTE THE NORWEGIAN LORAN C AND OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEMS MEAN ABSOLUTELY NOTHING FOR AMERICAN STRATEGIC SUB-MARINES. IT IS JUST AS UNLIKELY THAT NORWAY WOULD GET INTO TROUBLE WITH THE RUSSIANS BECAUSE OF LORAN C OR OMEGA, AS FOR THE US TO GET INTO A QUARREL WITH THE ALMIGHTY, BECAUSE AN AMERICAN STUCK HIS HEAD OUT OF THE SUBMARINE TO NAVIGATE BY THE STARS UNQUOTE, SAID AMERICAN ADMIRAL ISAAC C. KIDD
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AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN TROMSO. ADMIRAL KIDD IS CHIEF OF NATO'S NAVAL FORCES IN THE ATALNTIC. HE IS IN NORWAY TO VISIT NORWEGIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS.

HE SAID AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT OF THE 41 MISSILE-EQUIPPED NUCLEAR SUBMARINES WHICH THE US NOW HAS, 10 ARE STATIONED IN THE PACIFIC AND 31 IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

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THEY HAVE A MULTITUDE OF NAVIGATIONAL POSSIBILITIES ON
BOARD, AND IT IS COMPLETELY WRONG FOR ONE TO SAY THAT THEY
ARE DEPENDENT UPON ONE OR ANOTHER SYSTEM, SAID THE ADMIRAL.
END TEXT

2. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN TRYING WITH LIMITED
SUCCESS TO IMPRESS UPON THE MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC THE
HELPFUL AND INNOCENT NATURE OF THE LORAN C/OMEGA NAVIGATIONAL
SYSTEMS. ALTHOUGH WE WILL DOUBTLESS NEVER BE RID OF THE DARK
SUSPICIONS FROM THE LEFT AND THEIR SPORADIC SURFACING OF THE
SUBJECT WITH ODIOUS LINKS DRAWN TO NUCLEAR SUBMARINES, STRONG,
INTELLIGENT STATEMENTS BY RECOGNIZED AUTHORITIES SUCH AS ADMIRAL
KIDD ARE VERY USEFUL IN FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT.
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